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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of Lawrence M. Blatt et al. Confirmation No.: 2009
Serial No.: 10/555,735 Group Art Unit: 1646
Filed: November 30, 2006 Examiner: Zachary C.
Howard

**For: SYNTETIC CHEMOKINE RECEPTOR LIGANDS AND METHOD
OF USE THEREOF**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 14, 2008. The Examiner required therein election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-5, drawn to a synthetic CXCR3 ligand and compositions comprising said ligand;

Group II, claims 6-11, drawn to a polynucleotide encoding a CXCR3 ligand, and expression vector comprising said nucleotide, a host cell comprising said polynucleotide or vector, and a method for producing a CXCR3 ligand;

Group III, claim 12, drawn to an antibody that binds to a synthetic CXCR3 ligand;

Group IV, claims 13-17 and 20, in so far as they are drawn to a method of treating a fibrotic disease comprising administering a synthetic CXCR3 ligand; and

Group V, claims 18-20, in so far as they are drawn to a method of reducing tumor growth comprising administering a synthetic CXCR3 ligand.

The Examiner further required Applicants to elect a species selected from the group consisting of: (1) SEQ ID NO:1, (2) SEQ ID NO:2, (3) SEQ ID NO:3, (4) SEQ ID NO:15, (5)

SEQ ID NO:16, (6) SEQ ID NO:17, (7) SEQ ID NO:18, (8) SEQ ID NO:19, and (9) SEQ ID NO:20.

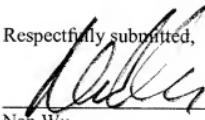
Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group I, claims 1-5, and species (4), SEQ ID NO:15, without prejudice. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject-matter during the pendency of this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due under 37 CFR §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21, and to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1283 of the undersigned.

Dated: May 14, 2008

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Respectfully submitted,


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